GET HELP
Dial 911 or use the LiveSafe app.

Contact the Dean of Students at (919) 966-4042 or dos@unc.edu if a student exhibits behavior that concerns you.

When in doubt, report behavior that troubles you.

You are on the frontline for students. If you see something, say and do something.

Resources for Faculty and Students
UNC Police
police.unc.edu/carolinasafer
LiveSafe App
police.unc.edu/carolinasafer/livesafe/
Dean of Students
odos.unc.edu

What to Do in an Emergency

• Assess the threat and act accordingly. If it involves your area or student, call 911.
• Stop teaching when sirens go off or if students alert you there is a potential threat.

How to Prepare

• Download the LiveSafe app and encourage your students to do so.
• Share what you learn here with your department or organization.
• Become familiar with the buildings you work and teach in.
• Create a “safety profile” of campus buildings and share with those who work in your area. Your building/facilities manager will be a good point of contact for information about rooms that lock and location of alarms and defibrillators.
• Tell students at the beginning of the semester what you will do in an emergency. Use the UNC Classroom Emergency Preparedness script and PowerPoint as a guide. Point out exits and ask students to know where they lead.
• Share safety information with your instructional team (TAs, undergraduate learning assistants, etc.)
• Add links to safety resources to your syllabus and course websites.
Examples of Concerning Behaviors and Circumstances

- Threats/plans/evidence of self-harm
- Noticeable cuts, burns or bruises
- Emotional or physical outbursts
- Extreme or sudden changes in mood or behavior
- More withdrawn or animated than usual
- Direct statements indicating distress, family problems, loss or traumatic experiences
- Excessive or uncharacteristic decline in coursework and course attendance
- Written or artistic expression of unusual violence, morbidity, isolation, despair
- Continual seeking of special provisions
- Overblown or disproportionate responses to evaluations or requests for improvement
- Excessive alcohol or other drug use
- Expressions of severe anxiety or irritability, hopelessness or worthlessness, crying or tearfulness
- References to a plan to “end all of their problems”

How Faculty Members Can Respond

- **Imminent Threat?** Call 9-1-1 in case of imminent harm to a distressed student or others.
- **In other cases,** speak directly with the student.
  - Meet privately
  - Set a positive tone
  - Express your concern and care
  - Point out specific things you’ve observed
  - Ask “How are things going for you?”
  - Ask non-judgmental, open-ended questions

Managing Student Privacy and Confidentiality

- Faculty acting in the role of professor/instructor are not governed by the Health Insurance Accountability and Portability Act (HIPPA), which spells out how medical and other health information must be protected.
- UNC’s Policies and Procedures under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 permits disclosure of personally identifiable information to “School Officials who have a legitimate educational interest in the records,” including the Office of the Dean of Students, Student Counseling and Psychological Services, and your department chair or dean.
- Personal observations of and direct communication with a student are not governed by FERPA legislation. The Office of the Dean of Students or the Office of University Counsel should be contacted for assistance whenever possible to help make and document the decision that a health or safety emergency exists.

The Bottom Line

If you notice a student exhibit signs of distress, **do something.**
- Meet with the student.
- Consult with CAPS or the ODOS.
- Submit a care report at odos.unc.edu/carereferral
- Call 9-1-1 if there is a threat of imminent harm to the student or others.
- Email the Dean of Students, dos@unc.edu

Concerned about a student? Email the Office of the Dean of Students at dos@unc.edu or submit a care report at odos.unc.edu/carereferral